

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

June 24, 2015

SHEILA “Skip” NOWELL LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy was held on

June 24, 2015 at Sheila “Skip” Nowell Leadership Academy, 43 Hawes Street, Central Falls, RI. Co-Chair Deborah Perry welcomed everyone, declared a quorum present and called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

Present: Deborah Perry, Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, Nancy Wilson and Jodi LaFauci.

Absent: Michele Cinquegrano, Susan Gershkoff, Beata Nelken, Stephanie Gonzalez, Clarice LaVerne Thompson and William Walter.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Deborah Perry requested a motion to accept the agenda.

On a motion duly made by Nancy Wilson and seconded by Deirdre Denning Norton

it was

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy accept the agenda for the meeting of June 24, 2015.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon, Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

2. OPEN FORUM

Co-Chair Perry explained to the audience that the Board of Directors will allow for public comment, limited to two minutes per person and beginning with comments pertaining to approval items on tonight's meeting agenda before accepting comments on other topics.

Members of the Board of Directors were asked to give their full attention to speakers but were reminded that they could not engage speakers in conversation or answer questions.

If concerns or questions were raised from Open Forum topics, the Board could direct staff to follow up.

Ellen Foley read a statement to the board regarding her resignation.

3. REPORT OF THE CHAIR

a. Deborah Perry reported that founding board member, Beata Nelken would be resigning as she is returning to her pediatric practice full time. Perry thanked Nelken for her services and stated she was a most valuable advocate for the opening success of the school.

b. Deborah Perry updated all concerning the planned expansion of Nowell progressing on time as planned for two additional campuses

in East Providence and Warwick years 2017 and 2018.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

**On a motion duly made by Toby Simon and seconded by Misty Delgado
it was**

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept Minutes of the
Meeting for May 6, 2015.**

**Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative as follows:**

**YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne
Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon,
Nancy Wilson**

NAYS: 0

**5. FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT: Bill Walter was not present;
Managing Director, Mike Commendatore reviewed cash flow and
expenses.**

6. PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT: Deirdre Denning Norton

reported that the personnel committee was working with a consultant to review/ create a salary scale for all Nowell employees to be completed by end of first quarter.

7. ACTION ITEMS

a. Motion to approve 2015-16FY Budget: Mike Commendatore presented the budget for review to the board. He stated there was no clean 2014-15 budget to compare it to and there were corrected classifications using UCOA that account for funds not moved to corrected line items. The budget was accepted with any additional questions furthered to Mike.

On a motion duly made by Gigi DiBello and seconded by Joseph DiMartino
it was

VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept Budget for the 2015-16 FY

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the

negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon,

Nancy Wilson

NAYS: 0

b. Motion to approve 2015-16 SY Calendar: Jodi LaFauci presented the school calendar.

**On a motion duly made by Suzanne Magaziner and seconded by Toby Simon
it was**

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept calendar for the 2015-16 SY**

**Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative as follows:**

**YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne
Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon,
Nancy Wilson**

NAYS: 0

**c. Motion to approve teachers' contracts: Jodi LaFauci presented all
current teachers contracts including a new position for a full-time**

Special Education teacher.

**On a motion duly made by Patricia Flanagan and seconded by Nancy Wilson
it was**

**VOTED: That the Sheila Skip Nowell Leadership Academy
accept teachers contracts for the 2015-16 SY**

**Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the
negative as follows:**

**YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Joseph DiMartino, Suzanne
Magaziner, Patricia Flanagan, Deirdre Denning Norton, Toby Simon,
Nancy Wilson**

NAYS: 0

8. MANAGING DIRECTOR UPDATE

**a. Michael Commendatore reported that the corrected Trial Balance
was complete and there were no findings.**

9. HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

**a. Jodi LaFauci updated the board that the graduation ceremony was
held on June 3, 2015. To date, Nowell has graduated 62 students.**

b. Jodi LaFauci updated the board on legislative activity affecting

charter schools stating there was lots of support for the Nowell mission in the midst of charter funding disputes. She stated she will continue to update board members as to whether there will be any effects on Nowell planned expansion.

c. Jodi LaFauci updated the board regarding Nowell Interim Site Visit from RIDE. She said the visit went well and there would be no surprises in the report. RIDE had expected concerns regarding attendance. Jodi reported that the school model of two days on campus for over aged, under-credited, parenting and pregnant, employed students is successful. The school is currently designing an alternate plan for at risk students attending four campus days.

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive session pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws Sec. 42-46-5(a)(2) - sessions pertaining to litigation; reasonably anticipated litigation involving former employees.

- i. Motion to conclude Executive Session and reconvene Open Session
- ii. Vote to seal minutes/votes taken during Executive Session if disclosure of such minutes/votes in Open Session would jeopardize any strategy, negotiation or investigation undertaken pursuant to discussions conducted under §42-46-5(a)

On a motion duly made by Misty Delgado and seconded by Toby Simon it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors enter into Executive Session.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Susan Gershkoff, Beata Nelken, Deirdre Denning Norton, William Walter and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

10. REPORT FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION

On a motion duly made by Deirdre Denning Norton and seconded by Gigi DiBello it was

VOTED: That the Nowell Leadership Board of Directors vote to seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

Vote: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Gigi DiBello, Misty Delgado, Susan Gershkoff, Beata Nelken, Deirdre Denning Norton, William Walter and Nancy Wilson.

NAYS: 0

11. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Suzanne Magaziner with no objections.

Co-Chair Perry adjourned the meeting at 7:13 PM.